

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Annual Report on Households Assisted by the Low Income Home Energy
Assistance Program (LIHEAP) (OMB #0970 - 0060)

AGENCY: Office of Community Services, Administration for Children and Families, HHS.

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of Community Services (OCS), Division of Energy Assistance, is requesting a 3-year extension of the Household Report Form (OMB #0970-0060, expiration February 28, 2022). Submission of the completed report is one requirement for LIHEAP grant recipients applying for federal LIHEAP block grant funds. OCS proposes minor changes related to reporting of supplemental funding and to update reporting dates and number of respondents.

DATES: Comments may be submitted through February 25, 2022. In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ACF is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained and comments may be forwarded

by emailing infocollection@acf.hhs.gov. Identify all requests by the title of the information collection.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description: States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are required by the Low-Income Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C 8624, Sec 2610) to report statistics for the previous federal fiscal year (FFY) on the following:

- Assisted and applicant households, by type of LIHEAP assistance and funding source;
- Assisted households receiving nominal payments of \$50 or less, by funding source;
- Assisted households receiving only utility payment
   assistance, by funding source; this information will
   automatically be transferred to the grant recipient's
   Performance Data Form;
- Assisted households, regardless of the type(s) of LIHEAP assistance or funding source, excluding households that only receive nominal payments of \$50 or less;
- Assisted households, by type of LIHEAP assistance and funding source, having at least one vulnerable member who is at least 60 years or older, disabled, or 5 years old or younger;
- Assisted households, by type of LIHEAP assistance and funding source, with at least one member age 2 years or under;

- Assisted households, by type of LIHEAP assistance and funding source, with at least one member ages 3 years through 5 years; and
- Assisted households, regardless of the type(s) of LIHEAP assistance or funding source, having at least one member
   60 years or older, disabled, or 5 years old or younger.

Indian tribal grant recipients are required to submit data only on the number of households, by funding source, receiving heating, cooling, energy crisis, and/or weatherization benefits.

In FFY 2020, OCS updated the form to allow for the reporting of households served by separate LIHEAP funding types and benefits provided by the following: (1) funds from regular LIHEAP FFY appropriations acts, including any Continuing Resolutions and final appropriations acts, reallotted prior year funds, and federal LIHEAP funds carried-over to or expended in the current year; (2) supplemental funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the CARES Act) (Pub. L. 116-136); and (3) funds from any subsequent supplemental LIHEAP appropriations acts. ACF proposes similar changes to the report for FFY 2022, including the addition of lines that allow for the reporting of households served by LIHEAP funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 117-2). OCS has also updated the request to reflect the

current number of expected respondents and appropriate reporting dates.

The information is being collected for the

Department's annual LIHEAP Report to Congress. The data

also provides information about the need for LIHEAP funds.

Finally, the data are used in the calculation of LIHEAP

performance measures under the Government Performance and

Results Act of 1993. The data elements will allow the

accuracy of measuring LIHEAP targeting performance and

LIHEAP cost efficiency.

Respondents: State governments, tribal governments, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

Annual Burden Estimates

Instrument	Total Number of Responde nts	Total Number of Responses Per Responden t	Average Burden Hours Per Respons e	Annual Burden Hours
Assisted Household Report-Long Form	56	1	43	2,408
Assisted Household Report-Short Form	151	1	2	302

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:

2,710

Comments: The Department specifically requests comments on

(a) whether the proposed collection of information is

necessary for the proper performance of the functions of

the agency, including whether the information shall have

practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's

estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of

information; (c) the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted through February 25, 2022.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 8629 and 45 CFR 96.92

Mary B. Jones,

ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

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